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(19) (CA) **APPLICATION FOR CANADIAN PATENT** (12)

(54) Curb Ramp

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(71) Same as inventor

(57) 3 Claims

Notice: This application is as filed and may therefore contain an incomplete specification.



Industrie Canada Industry Canada

Canada

## **The Curb Ramp**

### **Abstract**

In recent years, urban areas have replaced the typical square sided curb with a sloped rounded curb. These rounded curbs eliminate the need to put in driveways for people with front entry garages. The rounded curbs make it possible to drive a vehicle up and over the sidewalk, but there can still be a large bump. This causes discomfort for the passengers and is a hazard for the vehicle. At times, the vehicle bottoms out on the sidewalk or street causing immediate damage. This invention is a relatively narrow filler ramp made from recycled rubber. It allows for quiet smooth passage over the sidewalk curb. Having a drainage port molded into the product, it does not effect the regular flow of water.

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

- (1) A removable curb ramp which creates a smoother driving surface up onto the sidewalk leading to a driveway. The ramp comprises of a form fitted base to adapt to the contour of the street/sidewalk interface with a drainage port that travels the length of the base to prevent interference with water passage.
- (2) A curb ramp as defined in claim 1, in which the material used is recycled tire rubber held together with a polyurethane.
- (3) A curb ramp as described in claim 2, in which the proportion of polyurethane in the mixture is between 0.5% and 99%.

## Specification

This invention relates to a filler ramp providing smooth and quiet passage over the curb onto a front entry driveway. Many home owners address the problem of rough entry onto their driveway by filling the gutter with concrete, asphalt, wood, or plate steel laid down on an incline. Concrete and asphalt are permanent fixtures which interfere with water drainage, street sweepers, or snow plows. In addition, the concrete quickly cracks and breaks up creating an ugly hazard with loose, heavy chunks of concrete. Those who do not address the problem are left with a sharp drop off of their curb which is a hazard for the vehicle (bumper or skirting hits the street ore sidewalk while exciting and entering the driveway) and is uncomfortable for the passengers.

Our invention is a custom made curb ramp which is flexible enough to adapt to several curb shapes and sizes. It gently fills the drop off the curb onto the street. Made from recycled rubber, it is flexible and yet dense enough to allow smooth entry and exit from the driveway. Bound together with a poly-urethane, it is a solid, durable product resistant to cracking, ultra violet breakdown, and weathering due to extreme temperatures. Having a drainage port molded right into the base, it does not interfere with the regular flow of water down the gutter.

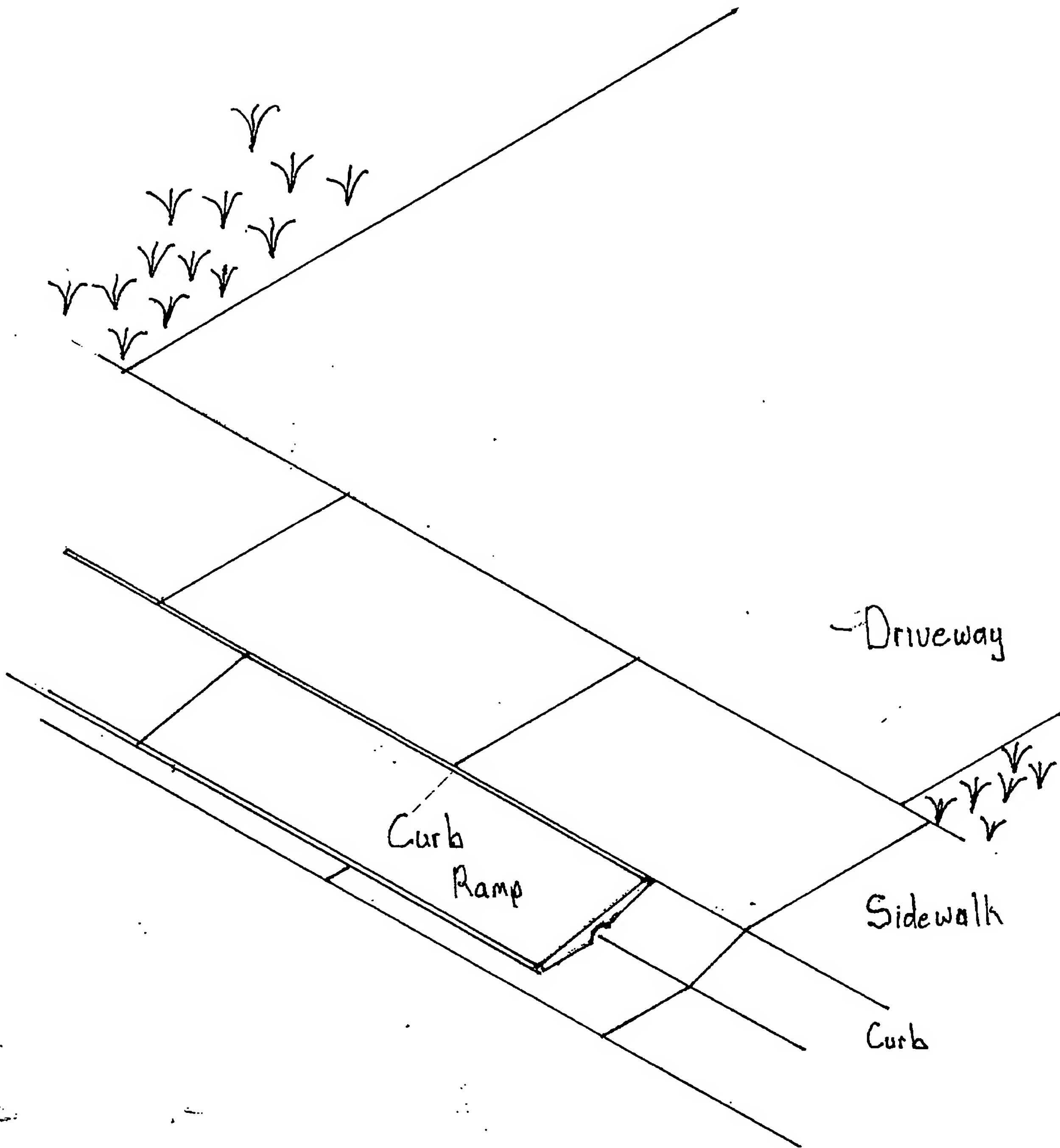
Coming in lengths just under 5 feet, it is easily installed by simply laying down each section end to end in the gutter and lining them up to best suit the user. This feature allows them to be removed for street maintenance. It may also be fastened down to the asphalt with 2 1/2" x 3/8" lag screws to the asphalt or fastened to the concrete with regular outdoor caulking. This prevents slight shifting caused by repetitive passage of vehicles and yet still maintains their removability. In addition, this product is environmentally friendly. It is made from 95% recycled rubber waste.

Drawing #1 illustrated the curb ramp in place. The curb ramp is symmetrical allowing installation to be just a matter of placing the curb ramp (drainage port side down) at the curb/street interface. The user can then adjust it to best fit the contour of the curb and align it with adjacent curb ramp sections.

Figure number 1,2 and 3 give the 3 dimensional view of the curb ramp.

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Drawing # 7



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FIG 1. TOP VIEW

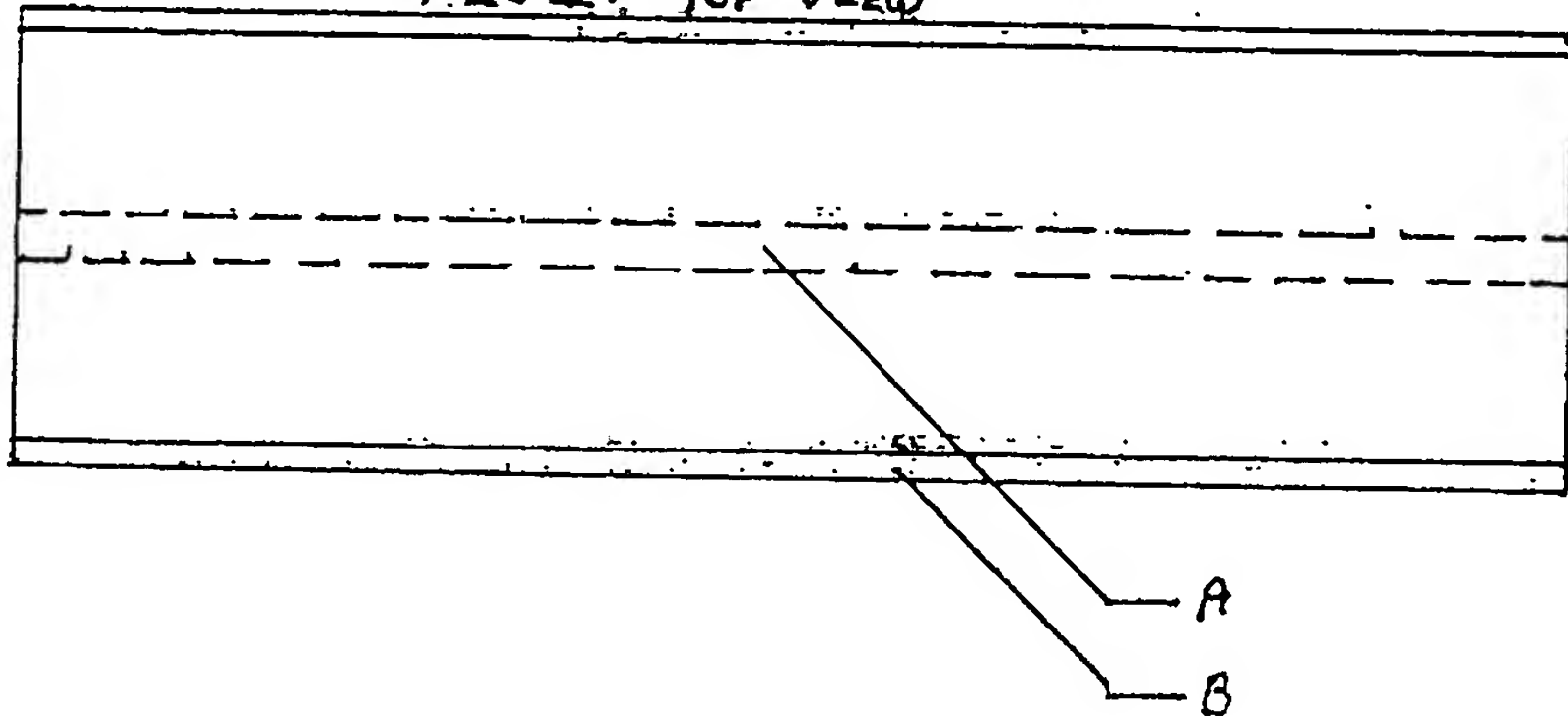


FIG 2. SIDE VIEW

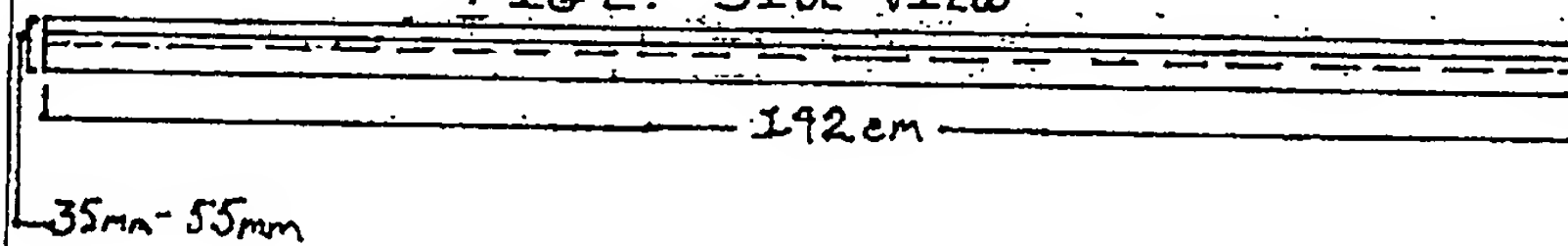
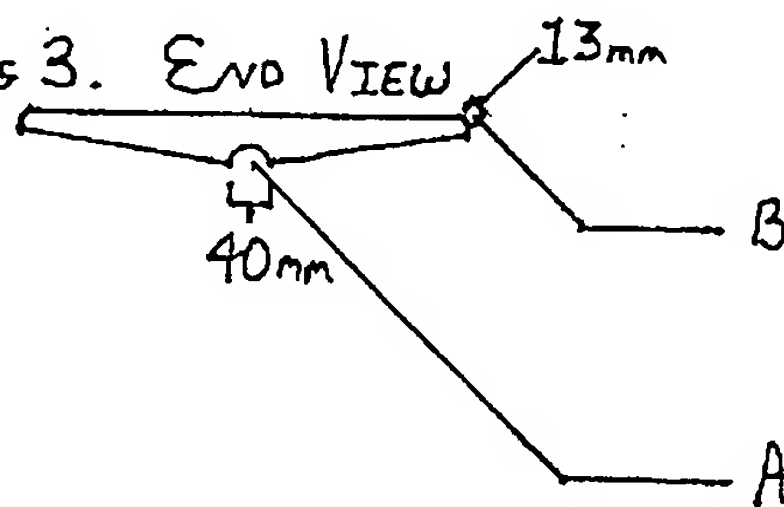


FIG 3. END VIEW



A - DRAINAGE PORT

B - TAPERED EDGE

SCALE: 1:10

Oct 28/94